# Job Description

# NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

# Renal Medicine ST3 (1 post)

The University of Sheffield, in partnership with Health Education England Yorkshire and the Humber and the Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, has developed an exciting pathway of academic clinical training opportunities.

Applications are now invited for an Academic Clinical Fellowship in Renal Medicine at ST3 level. This new post has been created as part of the Health Education England (HEE)/National Institution for Health Research programme of Integrated Academic Training and offers candidates a comprehensive experience of clinical academic medicine working alongside internationally renowned clinicians and researchers.

We are seeking highly motivated, enthusiastic individuals with the potential to excel in both their clinical and academic training and who have the ambition to be the next generation of academic clinicians.

This Academic Clinical Fellowship (ACF) programme in Renal Medicinewill be run by the University of Sheffield, the Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Health Education England Yorkshire and the Humber.

Academic Clinical Fellowships (ACFs) are 3 year fixed-term national training posts. They attract an NTN (A) and trainees undertake 75% clinical and 25% academic training over the term of the post. They are employed by the NHS Trust and have an honorary contract with the University at whose Medical School their academic research is supported.

ACF trainees also undertake a Research Training Programme provided by the University for which funding is provided by NIHR. They also are eligible for a £1,000 bursary per year to support research training activity (e.g to attend academic conferences).

The Clinical Academic Programme at Sheffield has recently introduced a competitive ACF pump-priming award. Trainees can apply for up to £2000 for initial costs for work aimed at achieving a research fellowship.

ACF trainees would also normally complete and submit an external funding application for a research fellowship to enable them to complete a higher degree (PhD or research MD) following the completion of their ACF fixed-term post, which would be completed as Out-of-Programme-Research (OOPR).

All Academic Clinical Fellowships are run-through posts, regardless of specialty, with the exception of ‘Medical Education’ ACFs. A trainee entering ACF at ST1 or ST2 in a specialty with a Core Training period would therefore be guaranteed continued training to CCT in the eventual specialty, as long as they progress satisfactorily through both their academic and clinical training. Run-through status is withdrawn if ACFs do not complete the academic component.

# POST DETAILS

## Job Title

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow (ACF) – Renal Medicine

## Duration of the Post

Up to 3 years (25% academic, 75% clinical).

## Lead NHS Hospital/Trust in which training will take place

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.

## Research institution in which training will take place

Based in the Department of Infection, Immunity and Cardiovascular Disease (IICD), the Academic Unit of Nephrology (ANU) was founded in 1990 within the Sheffield Kidney Institute and is one of the most established renal research groupings in the UK. Our overall aim is to conduct the highest quality research in fundamental discovery science, translate key findings to develop novel treatments and ultimately to improve outcomes for kidney patients and their families. Basic research is conducted at the ANU Laboratories on K floor at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital and clinical research through the Sheffield Kidney Institute (SKI) and the Clinical Research Facility (CRF) at the Northern General Hospital campus.

Current research areas of international standing are (1) the molecular pathogenesis and treatment of polycystic kidney disease (Ong) and (2) improving choice and outcomes for patients on dialysis (Wilkie). Others areas of active research include the genetics of kidney disease, renal development, cell signalling, renal imaging, renal bone disease, renal epidemiology and clinical trials. We have taken a multidisciplinary and ‘bench to bedside’ approach to research questions by developing close cross-department and faculty links with the Bateson Centre (formerly MRC Centre for Developmental and Biomedical Genetics), the School of Health and Related Research (ScHARR), the Institute for Insilico Research (INSIGNEO), the Department of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (MBB) and the Departments of Mechanical, Chemical and Systems Engineering.

The Unit has an outstanding reputation in postgraduate clinical and academic training with over 40 PhD/MD degrees being awarded. A highly successful MMedSci course in Nephrology was run from 1997 to 2010, training over 180 graduate students, mainly from the developing world. In addition, strong links with the International Society of Nephrology (ISN) have contributed to training nephrologists from developing countries including over 30 ISN fellows and the establishment of several successful ISN sister centre pairs with units in Africa, Egypt Eastern Europe and China.

We serve a population of up to 1.8 million, providing a full range of clinical services including dialysis and transplantation. The SKI is at the hub of a network of 4 satellite dialysis units providing healthcare provision for around 1200 patients on renal replacement therapy. The first renal transplant was performed in Sheffield in 1968. There is an active clinical research study portfolio organised by a Directorate Clinical Research Coordinator. For a successful applicant who wishes to undertake a clinical research project, the Clinical Research Facility is contained within the same building as the academic unit and laboratory facilities are available at the SKI.

**Current Staffing of the Academic Unit of Nephrology:**

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| Head of Academic Unit: | Professor Albert Ong |
| Professor of Nephrology: | Professor Martin Wilkie (honorary) |
| Senior Lecturer:  University Research Fellow: | Dr James Fotheringham (honorary)  Dr Andrew Streets |
| UKRI Fellow: | Dr Maria Fragiadaki |
| MRC Clinical Training Fellows (ACFs): | Dr Jiehan Chong, Dr Joshua Griffiths |
| NIHR Academic Clinical Fellows: | Dr Matthew Gittus |

**Consultants in the Trust – Sheffield Kidney Institute**:

Dr Simon Curran Consultant Nephrologist (Young Adult Service lead)

Dr Ragada El-Damanawi Consultant Nephrologist

Dr Nick Fardon Consultant Nephrologist (Interventional Nephrology lead)

Dr James Fotheringham Consultant Nephrologist (Training Programme Director)

Dr Sarah Jenkins Deputy Medical Director

Dr Arif Khwaja Consultant Nephrologist (CKD lead)

Dr Will McKane Consultant Nephrologist (Transplantation lead)

Prof Albert Ong Deputy Director for Clinical Academic Training (Genetics lead)

Dr Veena Reddy Clinical Director (Haemodialysis lead)

Dr Adam Shardlow Consultant Nephrologist

Dr Shareen Siddiqui Consultant Nephrologist (Supportive Care lead)

Dr Roslyn Simms Consultant Nephrologist (AKI lead)

Prof Martin Wilkie Consultant Nephrologist (Home Therapies lead)

In addition, 3 Specialty Grade doctors supervise outpatient dialysis and nephrology in conjunction with senior medical staff. Junior Nephrology staff comprises 8 StRs (including 3 NIHR Academic Clinical Fellows), 5 CMT, 1 F2 and 1 F1.

Four Consultant surgeons are responsible for renal transplantation and dialysis access surgery:

Mr V Chidambaran-Nathan Consultant Renal and General Surgeon

Mr Ahmed Halawa Consultant Renal and General Surgeon

Mr Avneesh Kumar Consultant Renal and Transplant Surgeon

Mr Ravi Pararajasingam Consultant Renal and General Surgeon (Clinical Lead)

Mr Badri Shrestha Consultant Renal and General Surgeon

Two Specialty Grade surgeons and an Advanced Nurse Practitioners provide support.

## Research Protected Time:

The clinical programme is designed to provide training from ST3 level until completion of CCT. During the first 3 years of the programme (the Academic Clinical Fellowship) the candidate will conduct a 9 month research attachment. During the 9 month Academic Research component of the post, there will be no out of hours on-call commitment.

**Objectives of the Training Programme**

1. To continue clinical training in Nephrology from ST3 level.

2. To undertake a generic programme in research methodology.

3. To identify an area of academic and clinical interest upon which to base an application   
for an externally-funded PhD programme or post-doctoral training fellowship if already holding a PhD.

**Relationship between Academic and Clinical Training**

All components of the clinical training are based in Sheffield Teaching Hospitals at the Northern General site, occasionally internal medicine attachments are undertaken in oither hospitals in South Yorkshire.

Academic training will occur in laboratories on K floor, Royal Hallamshire Hospital, in the Clinical Research Facility (O Floor) or in the Department of Biomedical Sciences, 400 metres away in the main University buildings.

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Research Component

**Main Activities & Responsibilities:**

This is a 3year full-time training post carrying an NTN (A) in Renal Medicine, with run-through to completion of CCT.

The successful applicant will have evidence of academic achievement and ideally have research experience and an intercalated BSc. They should be aiming to pursue a career in academic nephrology.

***Research***

The successful candidate will be expected to develop a research interest in the area of renal medicine and apply for a research training fellowship during the course of this post. This will be done in consultation with Professor Albert Ong and colleagues.

**Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Research Component**

The Fellow will be based within the Academic Unit of Nephrology comprising of clinical and non-clinical academics, postdoctoral scientists and postgraduate students who investigate molecular and cell biology relevant to kidney disease. The Academic Unit has excellent infrastructure for delivery of research training. For basic medical science, there are extensive facilities for molecular biology, tissue culture, genetics, microarray and proteomics and confocal imaging, all operating as "core" facilities with dedicated technical support. For Fellows who wish to undertake a clinical research project, the NIHR funded Clinical Research Facility on the Royal Hallamshire site, is contained within the same building as the Academic Unit and the clinical department.

**Successful candidates:**

The exit from this post will typically be to an externally-funded research fellowship, leading to award of a PhD and subsequently application either for a Clinical Lecturer post or a Clinician Scientist Fellowship.

**Unsuccessful candidates:**

If the post-holder does not achieve the expected clinical competencies, this will be handled in the same way as for all other trainees in speciality medicine.

If the post-holder fails to achieve academic competencies, or is unsuccessful in obtaining research funding, they would be anticipated to return to a clinical training post. This will be discussed in good time with the Programme Director for Nephrology through the system for appraisal and mentoring of academic trainees. Whilst no guarantee of an appropriate post is possible, every effort will be made to accommodate such individuals within the local training schemes.

**REPORT TO:**

Professor Albert Ong and chosen academic supervisors.

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Clinical Component

The Sheffield Kidney Institute provides acute and chronic renal failure services for the 1.8m population of South Yorkshire in partnership with Doncaster Royal Infirmary. As one of the largest kidney units in the country, Sheffield Kidney Institute currently provides dialysis for 675 patients. Haemodialysis facilities are sited in the base unit at the Northern General Hospital (57 stations) and in satellite dialysis units at Heeley (20), Barnsley (13), Chesterfield (12) and Rotherham (20), which together dialyse 560 patients. 115 patients dialyse at home either by peritoneal or haemodialysis. All haemodialysis patients are treated with high-flux membranes with a small number treated by online haemodiafiltration.

A purpose-built outpatient and administrative suite was completed at the Northern General Hospital site in 2006. There are two inpatient wards with a total of 45 beds. The acute ward has a dedicated bay to support inpatient dialysis (4 stations); the second ward supports transplantation/access surgery and elective nephrology/PD. 780 transplant recipients are followed up in the transplant clinic. Around 70 renal transplants are performed annually, and there is an active live donor programme. Laparoscopic donor kidney retrieval is established. DCD and ABOi transplantation commenced during 2008.

The specialty of Renal Medicine provides the opportunity of a career ranging from challenging and constantly varied clinical management to intellectually stimulating frontier research into diseases of worldwide importance. The specialty has encompassed the requirements of a clearly objective based training curriculum. During the clinical component of the rotation, the ACF will have identical duties and responsibilities to non-academic trainees and will participate in the assessment and management of medical admissions, outpatient clinics and emergency duties as appropriate. The ACF will be expected to participate in postgraduate education, audit and teaching in accordance with the standard job description of each post in the rotation.

***Teaching***

The post holder will contribute to the undergraduate and postgraduate teaching programmes of the School and will also be involved with the assessment of students and have personal mentoring responsibilities for a small group of students on the MBChB programme.

***Accommodation and support for the post***

Office space will be made available within the Academic Unit. Laboratory space will be made available as required.

# CONTACTS

## Academic Leads and Supervisors:

Professor Dilly Anumba

Chair of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Honorary Consultant in Obstetrics & Gynaecology/Subspecialist in Fetomaternal Medicine

Department of Human Metabolism

Academic Unit of Reproductive and Developmental Medicine

The University of Sheffield

4th Floor, Jessop Wing

Tree Root Walk, Sheffield S10 2SF

Tel. 0114 226 1075 (Academic)

0114 226 8172 (NHS)

Email: [d.o.c.anumba@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:d.o.c.anumba@sheffield.ac.uk)

Academic, Educational and Clinical supervisors will be assigned following appointment to align with the individual’s needs

Professor Albert Ong

Professor of Renal Medicine

Academic Programme Director for Renal Medicine and Deputy Director for Clinical Academic Training

Academic Nephrology Unit

Department of Infection, Immunity and Cardiovascular Disease

University of Sheffield

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**Deputy Head of School (South):**

## Dr Sunil Bhandari [medicine.yh@hee.nhs.uk](mailto:medicine.yh@hee.nhs.uk" \t "_blank)

## Training Programme Director (clinical):

Clinical Training Programme Director: Dr James Fotheringham (james.fotheringham@nhs.net)

## Academic Training Programme Director

Professor D O Anumba [d.o.c.anumba@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:d.o.c.anumba@sheffield.ac.uk)

HEE Yorkshire & The Humber academic.yh@hee.nhs.uk

# Further Information

Because of the nature of the work for which you are applying, this post is exempted from the provisions of Section 4 (2) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 by virtue of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975.

Applicants are therefore, not entitled to withhold information about convictions, which for other purposes are “spent” under the provisions of the Act, and in the event of employment any failure to disclose such convictions could result in dismissal or disciplinary action by the University. Any information given will be strictly confidential and will be considered only in relation to an application for positions to which the Order applies.

For further information about the Academic Clinical Fellowship programme, please refer to the NIHR (National Institute for Health Research) on <https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/academy-programmes/integrated-academic-training.htm>

Details surrounding the Faculty of Medicine can be accessed here <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/medicine-dentistry-health/study/clinical-academic-training>